

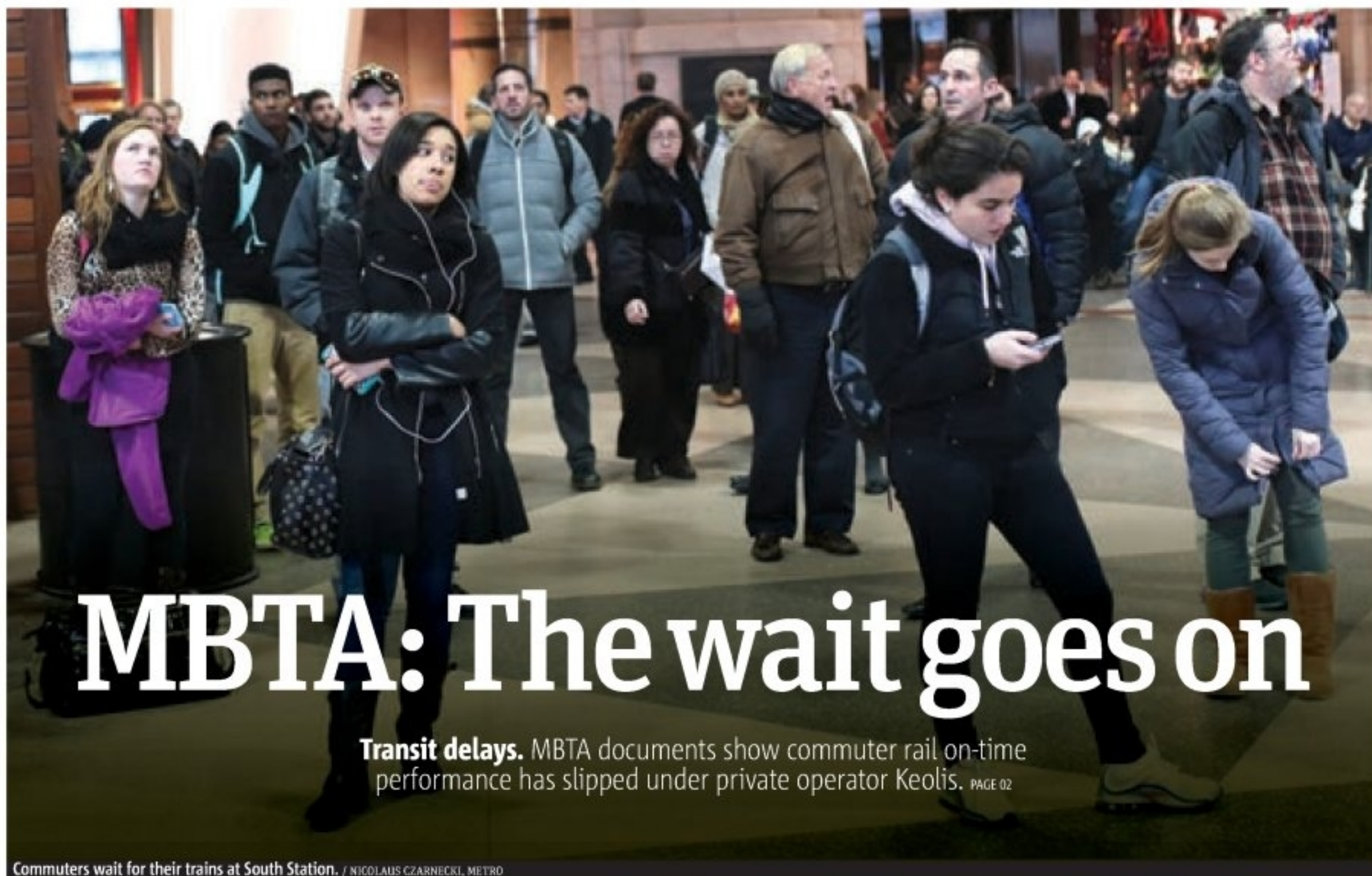
CHRIS HEMSWORTH KNOWS HE'S A TROPHY HUSBAND

THE "THOR" ACTOR IS THIS YEAR'S PEOPLE MAGAZINE SEXIEST MAN ALIVE. PAGE 09



metro®

BOSTON Thursday, November 20, 2014 www.metro.us | t: MetroBOS | f: MetroBoston



MBTA: The wait goes on

Transit delays. MBTA documents show commuter rail on-time performance has slipped under private operator Keolis. PAGE 02

Commuters wait for their trains at South Station. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

Homeless plead for shelter as freeze comes

PAGE 06

The ultimate guide to being single on Turkey Day

PAGE 12



Red Sox still have eyes for biggest names on the market

PAGE 21



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1

NEWS

Top 3

Trending online at Metro.us

1 'Obama to address nation on immigration on Thursday'

2 'Netflix puts Bill Cosby comedy special on hold'

3 'JetBlue to charge certain customers for checked bags'



On the go

Want to read Metro on your mobile device? Get the app! All you have to do is search for Metro US in the App Store or Google Play to get all the latest in news, sports, lifestyle and entertainment for free.

Busy Bostonians can outsource love lives

Boston. Three Day Rule matchmakers to get their white-gloved hands dirty in the Hub.

These days, you can hire someone to take care of just about any little errand you could possibly imagine. Need something delivered? Hit up Postmates. Don't feel like doing your own laundry? Give Lazybones a ring.

And if you don't want the drudgery of sorting through potentially appalling blind dates, Three Day Rule will do it, with white gloves on.

"We launched last Wednesday and there are already a lot of people in our dating pool," said McKenzie Faucher, Boston's new Three Day Rule matchmaker. "So there is a lot of interest. I'm very busy."

Faucher's job is simple — scout out people who fit her clients' ideal, meet them face-to-face, interview them and let the personalized match-making begin.

The company is made up entirely of women, some of whom left successful corporate careers to help singles find happiness.

Faucher, who formerly worked with the sales and trading teams at Investment Technology Group and Jefferies in Boston, says she's been able to turn a passion into a profession.

"I do feel like I've been unofficially matchmaking my whole life," said Faucher.



Three Day Rule founder and CEO Talia Goldstein, left, and Boston matchmaker McKenzie Faucher. NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

By the numbers

105M

105 million singles ages 18+ in the U.S.

44%

44 percent of U.S. population

53-47

53 percent women; 47 percent men

\$2.1B

Online dating is a \$2.1 billion business.

40%

40 percent of dating singles say they use online dating services to find a match.

*Sources: Census Bureau, Chicago Tribune



Visit **Metro.us** for information on Three Day Rule details and pricing.

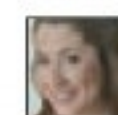
First opened in Los Angeles in 2010, the matchmaking company has branches in San Francisco, New York and Chicago and plans to be in 20 additional markets by the end of 2015.

Dating is an American rite of passage, so why outsource it to a matchmaker?

"People are just very busy, more career focused than ever," said Talia Goldstein,

the company's founder and CEO.

"And I think technology plays a really big role. They are overwhelmed. There are tons of dating apps, and they're not sure if the people online are looking for the same thing they want."



MORGAN ROUSSEAU
@MetroMorgan
morgan.rousseau@metro.us

Quoted



"The dating world has gotten so digital and impersonal, we put the personal touch back in dating."

Erika Gershowitz, 24, NYC



"We actually meet everyone in person so nothing is ever blind."

Suze Lee, 37



"Your matchmaker really gets to know you, so as your priorities evolve it can help you learn what you really want, and open up your mind."

Robyn Swider, 27, NYC

Mass. MBTA fines commuter rail company \$804,000 over delays

The company hired by the MBTA to take over operation of its commuter rail line four months ago has been fined \$804,000 for tardiness and station and train cleanliness.

Keolis Commuter Services has regularly fallen short of its contracted 95 percent on-time performance, MBTA documents show.

Last month, about 85 percent of commuter trains

were on time, down from 90 percent in October 2013, when Massachusetts Bay Commuter Rail operated the trains. Keolis' punctuality reached 88 percent in July and August, the documents showed, and reached 92 percent in September.

A train is considered "on-time" if it arrives within five minutes of schedule.

"Only four months into

Quoted

"[Keolis] is well aware of the areas on which they need to focus, and the MBTA is confident that they will continue to make progress in achieving the highest quality of customer service ..."

Kelly Smith, T spokeswoman

an eight-year contract, it's far too early to draw any conclusions," MBTA spokeswoman

Kelly Smith said by email yesterday. "The previous Commuter Rail operator ex-

perienced a number of highs and lows over the term of its contract."

Keolis took over commuter rail on July 1, under an eight-year, \$2.7 billion contract.

October was a "disappointing month" for the company and its passengers. "We're determined to improve," Keolis spokesman Mac Daniel said in an email. MORGAN ROUSSEAU

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Homeless plead for shelter as temperatures plummet

Winter. Boston's homeless population rallies for better, more accessible options.

Boston's homeless are pushing for more emergency housing after the city's largest shelter was effectively closed last month.

Dozens of homeless and homeless advocates at a City Hall rally on Wednesday said a solution was needed as soon as cold weather arrives.

Cleve Rea, who had his worldly possessions in a backpack at the rally, was forced to leave the homeless shelter on Long Island when the only bridge to the island was closed for repairs last month.

Rea said dozens of homeless were taken to a warehouse normally used for storing goods near the Bank of Ameri-

ca Pavilion, where they slept in tight quarters. He said he has spent the last 42 days wondering what would come next.

"It would be nice to be stable," he said.

Temperatures in Boston are forecast to drop to the mid-20's Thursday night and Friday, with cold rain predicted to start on Sunday, according to Weather.com.

Mayor Marty Walsh closed the deteriorated Long Island bridge, deeming it unsafe. The bridge is the main access point for the shelter and rehab programs that operate on Long Island, which included the city's largest homeless shelter.

"People are being housed in places where they shouldn't be," said Liza Green, of the Boston Homeless Solidarity Committee. "We're very skeptical they closed the bridge so abruptly. ... I think that they can make other arrangements



Dozens rallied outside City Hall on Wednesday for more housing and treatment programs for the homeless. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

to get people to the shelter."

Lisa Marie Jenkins, a 52-year-old patient care assistant who says she is sometimes forced to sleep in a wooded area in Jamaica Plain when she can't find a place to stay, said she now checks a certain heating grate each morning to make sure her friend that

sleeps there is still alive.

"This is the bottom, the bottom of the pit," she said. "It could be you one day. You're a paycheck away from being just like us."



DANNY McDONALD
@DMacCash
daniel.mcdonald@metro.us

Crime. Ex-Fed Connolly pushes for prison release

John Connolly, the disgraced former FBI agent from Southie who was corrupted by criminal kingpin James "Whitey" Bulger, is pushing to be released from prison as a Florida court mulls a state appeal of the reversal of his second-degree murder conviction.

Attorney James McDonald, confirmed that Connolly, a Boston College alum, this week filed a request with the Florida Supreme Court to be released from prison. McDonald expects a decision within two weeks.

He said the appeal of last May's reversal is without merit. "He's no threat to the commu-

nity," said McDonald. "He's in jail for a conviction that's been reversed."

Connolly is not entitled to release, said Ed Griffith, a spokesman for the Florida State Attorney's office. "He was properly convicted and is properly serving his time."

Connolly was sentenced to 40 years for the 1982 murder of gambling executive John Callahan in Miami. Florida prosecutors said Bulger met with his cronies, including Connolly, several times to discuss killing Callahan over the sale of World Jai Alai.

DANNY McDONALD

Tony's Metro Magic toy drive

Help Metro help others

Join Metro in giving to a local child in need this holiday season. Here's how:

- 1 Look for the Tony's Metro Magic logo on our website, Metro.us.
- 2 One click on the logo will take you to a "Wish List" we have set up via a secure link on ToysRUs.com.
- 3 Once there, you can see all the toys we've already requested for kids, and more are being added daily. Simply select the toys you want and

purchase them. That's it! Selecting only the toys on our Wish List ensures that all the gifts will be shipped to our offices for distribution.

Your donations go to local families who are receiving

help from Heading Home, an organization that aims to end homelessness in Greater Boston.

It serves more than 1,700 people and has placed 776 families into permanent housing since 2010.



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Obama to announce go-it-alone plan on immigration tonight

Immigration.

President's plan on deportations will aid immigrants, set up confrontation with Congress.

President Barack Obama will outline a plan on Thursday to relax U.S. immigration policy and grant relief from deportation to as many as 5 million undocumented immigrants in a go-it-alone move that will deepen a partisan divide with Republicans.

The White House said Obama will deliver a televised speech on Thursday night laying out the plan, followed by a trip to Las Vegas on Friday to build support. Nevada is home to the highest propor-

tion of undocumented immigrants in the country.

Frustrated by years of congressional inaction on what most in Washington agree is a broken immigration system, Obama said in a Web video posting that he is now prepared to act unilaterally.

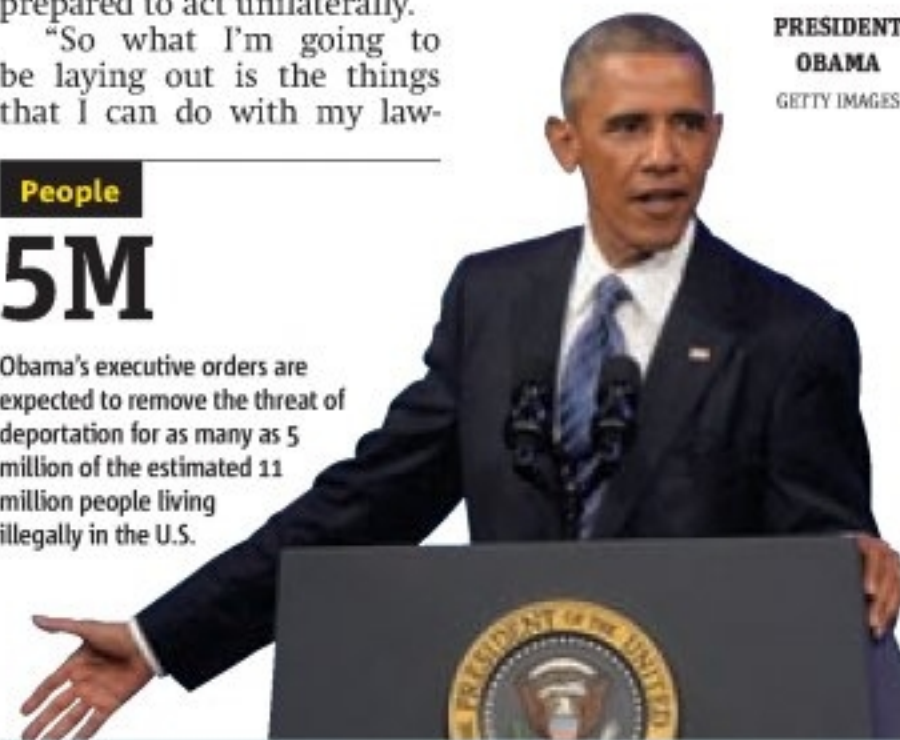
"So what I'm going to be laying out is the things that I can do with my law-

ful authority as president to make the system work better even as I continue to work with Congress and encourage them to get a bipartisan, comprehensive bill that can solve the entire problem," he said. **REUTERS**

**PRESIDENT
OBAMA**
GETTY IMAGES

People
5M

Obama's executive orders are expected to remove the threat of deportation for as many as 5 million of the estimated 11 million people living illegally in the U.S.



Bill. Republicans stop overhaul of NSA reform

A bill to end the National Security Agency's (NSA) bulk collection of telephone records failed on a procedural vote in the Senate on Tuesday after senior Republicans said it would benefit enemies of the United States, including Islamic State militants.

The "USA Freedom Act" was supported by an unusual coalition of Democrats and conservative Republicans concerned about Americans' privacy, but failed 58 to 42, falling short of the 60 votes needed to move ahead.

The measure is unlikely to become law anytime soon, as Republicans will hold a majority of seats in the Senate after Jan. 1. Senate Republican

Leader Mitch McConnell, the future Senate Majority Leader, came out strongly against the bill in a Senate speech on Tuesday morning, concerns matched by several hawkish Republicans, including former government officials.

The legislation was the first considered by the full Senate that addressed privacy concerns raised last year after revelations by former NSA contractor Edward Snowden showing U.S. intelligence was collecting and storing communications metadata, such as the records of millions of Americans' telephone calls.

Among other things, the bill would have required the NSA to ask a communications company for records of a specific person when investigating a terrorism case, rather than indiscriminately sweeping up records.

The House passed a similar, but less restrictive version of the bill earlier this year. The White House had supported the legislation, denying assertions that it would benefit terrorist groups. **REUTERS**



Telecommunications / GETTY IMAGES

Don't rule it out

Could Obama cut deal on Keystone pipeline?

President Barack Obama might be open to using the Keystone pipeline as leverage with Republicans if they cooperate on other aspects of his long-stalled domestic agenda, such as investing in infrastructure, closing tax loopholes or reducing carbon emissions.

After years of fighting over TransCanada's crude oil pipeline from Canada, a Keystone deal is not entirely out of the question, sources inside the administration and others close to the White House told Reuters.

With the Senate's narrow defeat of a Keystone bill on Tuesday, Obama avoided the awkward position of possibly vetoing a bill supported by members of his own Democratic party. But the issue will come up again soon after the new year when Republicans, who already control the House of Representatives, take charge of the Senate as well. **REUTERS**

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On edge. Israelis and Palestinians seek personal safety in holy city violence



Ultra-Orthodox Jews look at bullet holes in the main window of a synagogue in Jerusalem which was attacked by two Palestinians. / GETTY IMAGES

On edge but faithful to their religious routine, worshippers returned on Wednesday to the Jerusalem synagogue where four rabbis and a policeman were killed in a Palestinian attack a day earlier.

The bloodstains had been washed away, but four memorial candles burned as about a dozen men chanted their daily prayers and police newly stationed outside guarded the Kehillat Bnei Torah congregation.

Palestinians in Israeli-annexed East Jerusalem also voiced fears for their safety amid the surge in violence, as police set up checkpoints in their neighborhoods and tethered surveillance balloons floated overhead.

Violence in Jerusalem has surged since July, when a Palestinian teen was burned to death by Israeli assailants in an alleged revenge for the abduction and killing of three Jewish teens by militants in the West Bank. **REUTERS**



GETTY IMAGES

Western NY buried by snow, seven dead

Western New York braced for a fresh wave of heavy snow on Wednesday after a freakish storm swept off the Great Lakes and buried the region under 5 feet of it, killing at least seven people and stranding motorists in cars. The autumn snowstorm has already left accumulations that are remarkable even for the Buffalo area, where heavy snowfalls and frigid winter weather are the norm. **REUTERS**

Murder

Honduran beauty queen found dead

A Honduran beauty queen was found murdered just days before she was due to compete in the Miss World pageant in London, police said on Wednesday.

The bodies of Maria Jose Alvarado, 19, and her sister Sofia, 23, were found buried near a river in the mountainous region of Santa Barbara in western Honduras, said Leandro Osorio, head of the criminal investigation unit.

Alvarado, a student who aspired to become a career diplomat, had been due to take part in the Miss World events that start on Thursday and culminate in the final in London on Dec. 14.

She and her sister had been missing since Thursday, when they were seen leaving a party in a car without a license plate in Santa Barbara, a coffee-growing region where drug gangs are active.

REUTERS



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Justin Bieber goes sober for Jesus



ARE YOU THERE, GOD?
IT'S ME, JUSTIN. / GETTY IMAGES

Canada's goodwill ambassador has reportedly been devoting his time to celebrity pastor Carl Lentz of Hillsong Church. And by "devoting," I mean he "exiled himself from friends, alcohol, weed and everything else that doesn't involve the good Lord" for two weeks at Lentz's Rancho Mirage compound near Palm Springs, California, at least according to TMZ. I don't wish ill on the kid, but I'd rather the partying pop star with a Napoleon complex not go all Kirk Cameron on us. Come back to the bong, Bieber, and all will be forgiven.

New Sexiest Man Alive drunk with power

Chris Hemsworth is officially People magazine's new Sexiest Man Alive, and it looks like the "Thor" star plans on using his newfound powers for evil, not good. "I'll put it on the mantelpiece just to remind [my wife] in the coming years," he tells the magazine about how he plans to use the accolade. "I can just say to her, 'Now remember, this is what the people think, so I don't need to do the dishes anymore, I don't need to change [diapers]. I'm above that. I've made it now.' I'd rethink that strategy if were you, buddy."



Ellen DeGeneres and Portia de Rossi wish you a Kardashian Christmas

It might not break the Internet, but Ellen DeGeneres is looking to at least break her friends' mantels this Christmas, thanks to her latest attempt at a pop culture holiday card. The gag greeting, unveiled on her talk show, features DeGeneres and wife Portia de Rossi Photoshopped onto Kim Kardashian's body from, you know, that photo.

DeGeneres and de Rossi have previously used Kardashian as a holiday foil, making a card that spoofed Kanye West's nude motorcycle riding in the "Bound 2" video. Anyway, now they're wishing you a shiny New Year, so there you go.

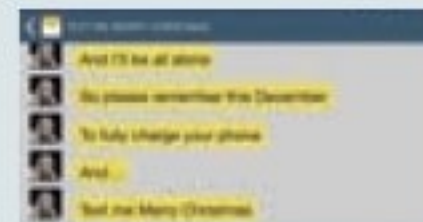


Kardashian is the butt of DeGeneres's card. / TWITTER, @THEELLENSHOW

Daily video

'Text me Merry Christmas'

"Frozen" and "Veronica Mars" star Kristen Bell has teamed up with a cappella group Straight No Chaser for the new instant holiday classic we all deserve,



YOUTUBE

"Text Me Merry Christmas." The ridiculously catchy tune

addresses our growing dependence on mobile technology in place of good old-fashioned personal communication, but it's also kind of sweet. Could've done without the a cappella, though, honestly. Still, 'tis the season!

2

CULTURE

THE WORD

Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.

NED EHRBAR
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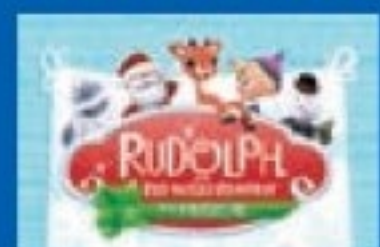
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TV watch list



EMILY DESCHANEL ON
"BONES" / FOX

DRAMA

'Bones'

The team looks into the murder of a crossword puzzle master. **8 P.M., FOX**

DRAMA

'The Vampire Diaries'

Elena and Caroline decide to host a Friendsgiving at the dorm. What do they serve? They're vampires. If you get invited, maybe send your regrets. **8 P.M., CW**

COMEDY

'Mom'

Christy thinks something might be up with Violet after she starts behaving oddly. **8:30 P.M., CBS**

REALITY

'Rehab Addict'

LeBron James takes a break from his day job to work with host Nicole to fix up a house in his hometown of Akron, Ohio. It's the first of five episodes with him. **9 P.M., HGTV LISA WEIDENFELD**

A New Kid visits 'The McCarthys'

Interview. A new CBS sitcom set in Boston made an important casting decision: the addition of a member of Boston-originating New Kids on the Block.

With Joey McIntyre on "The McCarthys" and Donnie Wahlberg on "Blue Bloods," CBS is now at 20 percent New Kids on the Block saturation. "We're on different nights, so that's good. We can get one more half-hour out of [the fans]," McIntyre jokes. But those Blockheads — fans of the boy band — are showing their support. "They're very excited about the show. I think, of course, they're going to be inclined to like something that I'm on or one of us is on, but they're a good audience; they're a smart audience."

McIntyre stars as one of the McCarthys, a Boston family that includes twins Gerard (McIntyre) and Sean (Jimmy Dunn) along with brother Ronny (Tyler Ritter) and sister Jackie (Kelen Coleman), all under the leadership of parents Arthur (Jack McGee) and Marjorie (Laurie Metcalf).

This isn't the first time McIntyre has put his Boston roots to work for an acting gig. McIntyre played one of Melissa McCarthy's brothers in last year's "The Heat," though he says the two families are very different.



Catch "The McCarthys" on Thursdays at 9:30 p.m. on CBS. / SONIA FLEMMING, CBS

Group dynamics

A New Kid's take on boy band revivals

So what does Joey McIntyre think of One Direction? "It comes in cycles, you know what I mean? You talk about the Jackson 5 and the Osmonds, then New Kids and then Backstreet Boys and *NSYNC. And then we take a break," McIntyre says. "But One Direction doesn't come around every day, you know what I mean? And that's just a massive thing. I'm happy for them. Seems like they're making good pop music and they're good guys. I think they should dance a little bit more, but other than that they seem like good guys."

Quoted

"Of course they're going to be inclined to like something that I'm on or one of us is on, but they're a good audience; they're a smart audience."

McIntyre, on the support of his fans

"There is a certain aspect to it, a certain niche that Boston brings — an Irish Boston kind of chip on your shoulder, working-class mentality, very opinionated," he says. "There's a certain thing that I think Boston people have, a point of view. And certainly, that was the kickoff of where 'The McCarthys' came from. That family in 'The Heat' is similar, but with the 'F' word. I mean, the McCarthys would be very, very insulted if you compared us to that family. We think we're much better than that."

If there's a downside to his New Kid career, it's the timing when it comes to the age of his fans — he never really indulged in groupie culture. "Back then they were young girls, teenagers, going crazy and figuring all sorts of stuff out," he says. "Back then they were too young, and now they're all beautiful women — and I'm married and happy. Couldn't enjoy you then and can't enjoy you now."



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Boston essentials for the winter

Bostonians have something big to look forward to this holiday shopping season: Lou & Grey, the knitwear brand generally housed in LOFT stores, opened its second freestanding store in nearby Natick (head to the Natick Mall at 1245 Worcester St.). The new location features the usual cozy lounge pants and textured sweaters you've come to love from the them, but there are plans to start selling products made by local designers. Since they've got an eye for this kind of thing, we asked Lou & Grey's design director, Austyn Zung, who's worked with Oscar de la Renta and Isaac Mizrahi, for her fall/winter Boston-area essentials. **LISA WEIDENFELD**

1 White jeans and a cozy coat

Looking for a nice new coat now that the weather's getting chilly? Zung recommends Lou & Grey's faux Sherpa Jacket. "I am crazy for this furry zip-up. I can't wait to wear it with a pair of winter white jeans."



WWW.LOUGREY.COM

2 Keep it glam

Though Lou & Grey focuses on a more laid-back look, that doesn't mean there's no opportunity to add a bit of shine to what you're wearing. Zung recommends these earrings from Sophie Hughes: "I love the handmade look of her pieces. They are modern and sculptural, yet have a very relaxed vibe."



WWW.SOPHIEHUGHES.COM



WWW.RAVENCAMBRIDGE.COM

3 Read up

A cozy sweater isn't complete without a good book, right? While Boston has its fair share of great independent bookstores, Zung's favorite is Raven Used Books. She prefers their Cambridge branch. "This store has an impressive selection that has been circulating through the literary community around Harvard," she says. "It's the ideal place to pick up an already loved book."



WWW.FLOURBAKERY.COM

Sticky buns!

Look, it wouldn't be winter if you didn't indulge in a little bit of comfort food, so head on over to Flour Bakery for a sticky bun! They're in a few locations, so whether you're in the South End, Cambridge or the Fort Point neighborhood, you can grab one. "These sticky buns are famous for a reason - they are delicious. A perfect gift to give friends and family for the holidays," says Zung.

Glowing skin

It's easy to let winter get the best of your skin care regimen. But Zung has some ideas for how to keep looking healthy despite that cold dry air. She recommends visiting Follain: "I am always on the lookout for products to keep skin hydrated and healthy as the temperatures drop. This store has great brands that we also carry at Lou & Grey, like Earth tu Face and Farmaes-thetics."



WWW.SHOPFOLLAIN.COM

Laid-back

With athletic wear becoming increasingly popular as everyday clothing, Lou & Grey is ready to keep you looking sleek and stylish. Try out their double knit sweatpant. "These clean black joggers are great because they're comfortable yet sleek at the same time," says Zung.



WWW.LOUGREY.COM

Sale

Misha and Puff Holiday trunk show

Want to dress your bundle of joy up in some super cozy and beautiful clothes? Head to the Misha and Puff trunk show for breakfast and to shop the brand's thoughtfully designed sweaters, scarfs, pants and more, which are hand knit in Peru. (Misha and Puff's knitting center in Lima provides day care and meals for their knitters.) Bonus: Come in wearing a Misha and Puff item, and receive a discount on your M&P purchase. **Sunday, Nov. 23 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Hatched 668 Centre St., 617-524-5402**

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Families. A life coach explains how to handle awkward relationship conversations.

No matter how much you love your family, gathering together for Thanksgiving can be a stressful experience — particularly if you're single and don't feel like talking about your personal life over dinner.

"I would just say to your family 'Thank you for caring,'" says Sonia Choquette, a life coach and the author of "Walking Home: A Pilgrimage From Humbled to Healed." "Don't get defensive. Just say, 'I'm so grateful that you care about me. Being single is a choice that I am making because it's good for me right now.'"

Choquette offers these pointers for having an emotionally healthy holiday with your fam.

Think the best of their intentions

"With families, generally we do love each other," she says. "Your family isn't going to set you up to fail."

It might be a good idea to call your parents before Thanksgiving and tell them that. "What you want to do is say, 'I am in a difficult period right now, but I'm really looking forward to coming home,'" she says.

Change the subject

"You play a role in how

Thanksgiving tips for singles



Try not to throw your drink at anyone if they ask about your relationship status. / PHOTOS.COM

your family treats you," says Choquette. "Be the person who asks lots of questions. Everyone is the star of their own world, so you can turn the situation around."

Be kind to yourself

Remember not to assume everyone is judging you. "It's really important to recognize that those thoughts are fears, not facts," Choquette explains. "We have this phony idealism that 'When I meet the one, everything is going to be perfect, but that's not true.'"

Choquette suggests taking a realistic look around you. "Relationships, you have to remember — whether they are friends or a couple or family

Prepare yourself

Say things out loud

"Before you go, acknowledge your fears," advises Choquette. "Say 'My fear is that I am being left behind,' [for example]. I have found that if you acknowledge them out loud and empty the garbage of your fears, things will be better. This is just a temporary experience."

— are just two complicated people trying to find common ground," she says.



LAKSHMI GANDHI
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lakshmi.gandhi@metro.us

Online dating. There are now options for those who don't fit inside a box

Online daters who have updated their OkCupid accounts recently might have noticed something different in the "About Me" section: a slew of new ways to describe one's gender and sexuality.

Mic.com reports that select users of the popular dating site have the option of identifying as "Demisexual," "Heteroflexible" and "Pansexual" among other terms in the sexual orientation section.

The daters who have been offered the new options can also now choose from 20 words to describe their gender, words that include "Transconforming," "Other" and "Genderfluid."

Although the site did not

Options

A growing trend

OkCupid joins Facebook and Match.com on the list of social media sites that have updated their gender options in recent months, perhaps in response to a Change.org petition launched last year demanding that the site update its gender and sexuality options because "these binaries do not fit for all of us."

officially announce the new changes, it has been hailed as a welcome change by many blogs.



OkCupid is being praised for the new additions. / STOCKBYTE

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Enhance your sense of smell with this fashionable face accessory. / CHARLIE HARRY FRANCIS

Quirky product. A doglike snout will improve the taste and smell of a meal.

A new nose accessory will turn you into a food hound. The Olfactic Dog Nose, created by "edible inventor" Charlie Harry Francis, is designed to improve the wearer's sense of smell and flavor. "A wet nose is a healthy nose on a dog. Similarly, a wet nasal passage is a tasty nasal passage for a human," explains the UK-based eccentric behind experimental events company Lick Me I'm Delicious. The comical-looking oversized detachable nose has to be soaked in warm water and worn 10 minutes prior to eating in order for the wearer to get the full flavorsome experience. The 30-year-old creator explains why we should be more "nosy" when it comes to food.

Why did you create an Olfactic Dog Nose?

It's all part of the Human Cookbook movement, making people aware that their mental and physical states have a huge effect on how good food tastes.

So it improves the flavor of food?

It enhances your sense of smell and therefore improves your perception of flavor.

How does it work?

It introduces a warm, moist buffer between your nasal cavity and the outside air, which moistens the mucous membranes in your nose. This allows them to dislodge any irritants and makes them better able to dissolve odorants into your mucus lining, so they can be detected by your olfactory receptors.

So food really tastes better?

Eighty percent of taste comes from our olfactory sense (our sense of smell). Try eating

a strawberry while holding your nose — all you'll taste is a sweet flavor, but if you release your nose, you'll taste an explosion of strawberry. The Olfactic Dog Nose moistens your nasal cavity, thus improving this sensation.

Are people already wearing them?

Yes, there's been quite a bit of interest already. The important thing is that people start to realize they can make their food taste better just by controlling their bodies — the Olfactic Dog Nose is just one option. If you undergo sensory flavor deprivation the day prior to a fantastic meal, the food will taste better. You can also go for a run before you eat, have a bath before dinner or eat dinner in the bath — all these things will improve the taste.

If I'm ill, will it work?

If you have a cold, it would work even better because you'd be coming from a lower base point, so the improvement would be more noticeable.

DMITRY BELYAEV, MWN
@MetroBOS
letters@metro.us

New looks

Why have you chosen a clown nose form for it?

It's the perfect tool for the job — it retains moisture, fits right onto your nose and comes in a range of colors.

Don't you think it's a bit ridiculous to wear a clown nose before eating?

Not at all.



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IMPROVE YOUR PUNCH GAME



Follow Wondrich's advice, and your punch will look just as tasty as this.

HEMERA

As the holidays approach and thoughts about entertaining start to come together, most of us have ideas well ahead of time about the type of food we'll be serving. Booze, on the other hand, too often is an afterthought. We prop a few bottles of wine or spirits on a table, alert guests to the location of the beer cooler, then call it a day. But there's a better way, David Wondrich reminds us.

Wondrich, a cocktail historian and author of such highly regarded books as the James Beard Award-winning "Imbibe!" and "Punch," will appear at Empire Asian Restaurant

& Lounge on Monday to ladle out some punch and wisdom. Joining him is Brother Cleve, Boston's own highly credentialed cocktail chronicler.

Punch's reputation has undergone a number of changes, Wondrich says. When he first started researching his book on the subject in 2008, it had a poor reputation.

"It immediately brought about a visage of garbage cans and big jug handles of Everclear, blocks of frozen fruit dumped in, all that dumb stuff. I'm not saying it wasn't fun, but it was dumb," he says. "That wasn't the kind of thing you could drink often, and as a culinary experience it was trifling at best, and as a hangover it was spectacular."

Anyone who's nursed a hangover after a holiday party will know what he means.

Classic punch of the 19th century persuasion, he says, was more of an everyday drink. We've gotten far afield from that, as punches have become more of a special-occasion-only option and lost track of the simplicity of the form.

The steps are few. The first step to a good punch is the citrus, particularly the oil of lemon peels. Wondrich recommends tossing lemon peels with sugar, which absorb the moisture, making the flavor not just sharp, but also sweet and rich, as in his recipe for a Boston Rum Punch that he adapted from a recipe that ran



Visit **Metro.us** for Wondrich's recipe for Boston Rum Punch.

in The Boston Globe in 1889.

Second, choose the right spirits. Stay away from vodka and most gins, and stick to dark, heavier rums, cognacs and whiskies. Perhaps most important, however, is water.

"People are afraid of watering their booze, but the idea of classic punch wasn't to be at cocktail strength. It was almost like the light beer of alcohol; you could drink a few, talk, socialize and wouldn't get drunk so fast," he says. "A cocktail grabs you by the lapel and punches you in the stomach. Punch isn't supposed to."

Lastly, he says, don't, over-spice. A lot of new mixologists are used to infusing ingredients and heavily spicing spirits. "That makes for a really tasty first glass. Your second glass is tasty enough, and after that you get tired of f—king chamomile," he says.

Punch should be almost bland, he says: "Just a little bit of interesting, something to keep you drinking."

If you go

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GO BIG OR GO HOME



Are you ready for the epic concerts of the Trans-Siberian Orchestra to hit Boston? / NBC, NBCU PHOTO BANK

Interview. The epic Trans-Siberian Orchestra is heading to Boston. Are you ready?

The Trans-Siberian Orchestra is the constantly evolving, hugely successful progressive rock band conceived by Paul O'Neill. With a history writing, producing, managing and promoting such acts as Aerosmith, Joan Jett, AC/DC and the Scorpions, O'Neill's success with a band of his own was decades in the making.

After forming and disbanding the prog-rock band Slowburn in the mid-1970s, O'Neill entered the business side of the industry, eventually becoming one of Japan's most successful festival promoters in the 1980s.

Heading to Siberia

What's in a name?

"The very first rock opera was about the Romanovs, but when it moved to Broadway we were going to call it the Trans-Siberian Orchestra because the Romanov family built the Trans-Siberian Railway. I was lucky to be in Russia the year before. Siberia is really beautiful, but it's really big, harsh and unforgiving and the only thing they have to transport them to relative safety is the Trans-Siberian Railroad. It's the idea that life is very beautiful but harsh and unforgiving, and music is one thing that we all have in common that runs across to relative safety," says O'Neill.

After decades of success from "learning the industry from the inside out," Atlantic Records asked O'Neill to start his own band in the '90s, and he was finally able to live out his Slowburn aspirations, and on a much grander scale.

"I wanted it to be something completely different," O'Neill recalls. "I told them I wanted four guitar players like the Outlaws, two drummers like the Grateful Dead and the Doobie Brothers, a full symphony in the studio like Emerson, Lake and Palmer, Pink Floyd-like production and 24 lead singers. Writing a great song is only half the battle. Then you need the right voice for the alchemy to bring that song to life."

Founded in 1996, the band's first two installments of O'Neill's preconceived "Christmas Trilogy" were released to

great acclaim, with the third released in 2004. While other albums have been hailed as rock opera masterpieces, the "Christmas Trilogy" became a force in the band's touring career. "To be quite honest, the success of the Christmas Trilogy blindsided everybody," notes O'Neill. "TSO always does things backwards. Normally you don't take on Christmas until you have multiple platinum albums before that. In the entertainment world, it is the Holy Grail. You have to compete against art that has to get past the ultimate critic and the only critic you can't fool, which is time."

And time has been on their side. For 13 straight years, TSO played "Christmas Eve and Other Stories" from November to late December. The past two years, they've taken on

If you go

Trans-Siberian Orchestra

Dec. 20, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.
TD Garden
100 Legends Way
\$40-\$70, 800-653-8000
www.ticketmaster.com

"The Lost Christmas Eve," and this year, they'll debut the final third of their trilogy, "The Christmas Attic."

With 360 people in their crew and 40-plus trailers carrying lasers, lights and fireworks, the TSO has become a truly epic concert experience.



NOLAN GAWRON
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Also on stage

The Barr Brothers

Saturday, 8 p.m.
The Sinclair
52 Church St., Cambridge
\$12-\$15, 18+, 800-745-3000
www.ticketmaster.com

This Montreal indie folk band really does contain two (formerly Bostonian) brothers with the surname Barr, but their most distinguishing element is harpist Sarah Page, who uses her grandiose instrument to unexpected effect. The Barrs know their way around a plaintive, melancholic ballad, but they can also bust out some raw, gutsy blues-rock.



JOHN LONDONO

Also on stage

Strange Mangers

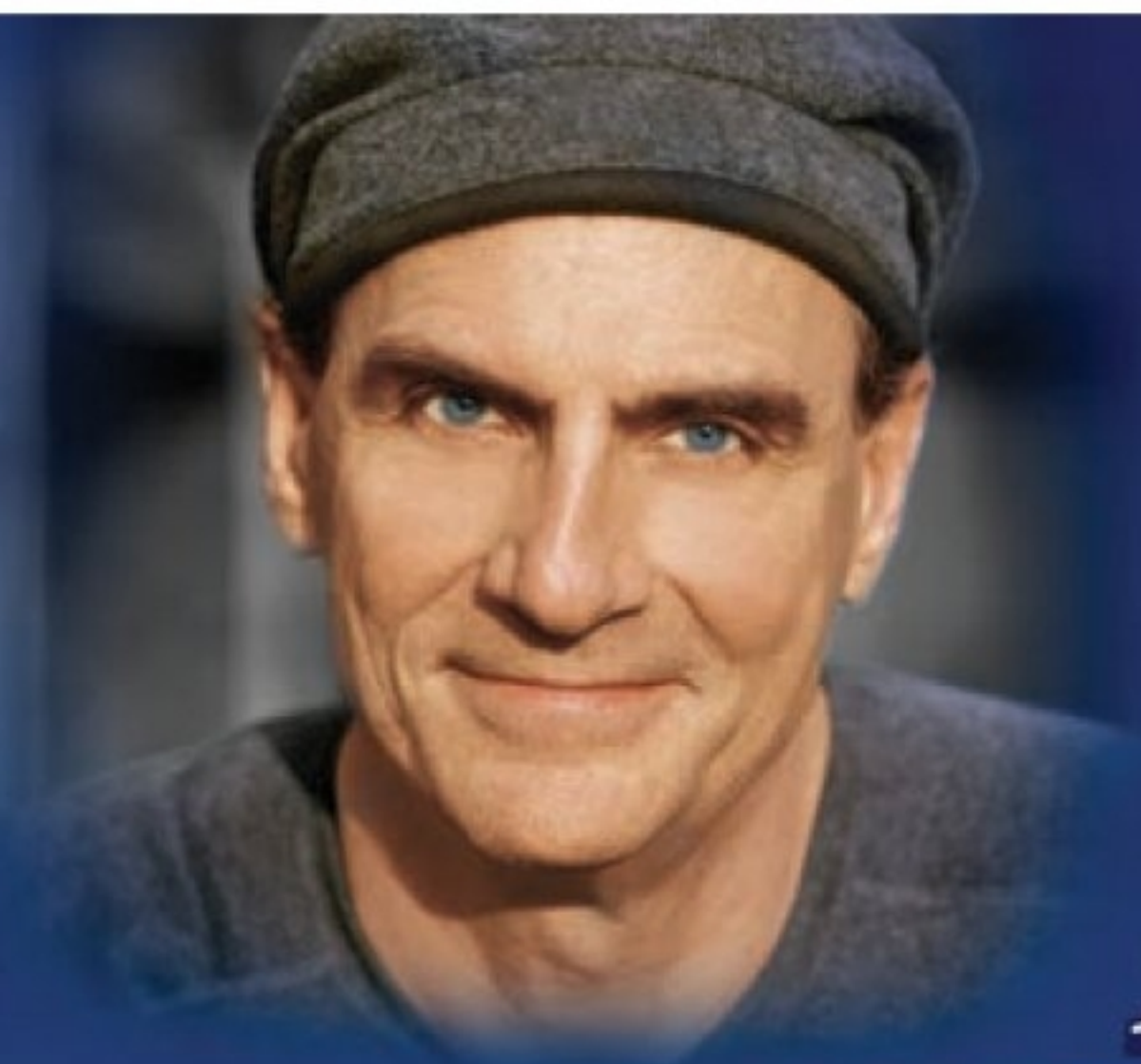
Monday, 9 p.m.
Great Scott
1222 Comm. Ave., Allston
\$8, 18+, 800-745-3000
www.ticketmaster.com

This local band mixes the twisty rhythms of math rock with the whispery melancholia and fuzz walls of shoegaze. It's moody music, but always in an evocative and unaffected way. At a time when any band that turns up the echo can get called "shoegaze," Strange Mangers come off as true believers in the genre. **MATTHEW DINARO**



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'Awake and Sing,' or just do something else

Review. The stereotypes come on strong throughout Huntington's latest.

"Awake and Sing!" is a Depression-era story that, in the hands of the Huntington Theatre Company, looks too clean and shiny to pack its intended wallop.

James Noone's handsome set feels more like a contemporary, freshly painted New York apartment than the shabby, poorly maintained fifth-floor walk-up the Berger family kvetches about. Michael Krass' costumes also feel too tailored and on-

trend for the threadbare bunch.

If you close your eyes, however, the shrill, nagging essence of this hyper-dysfunctional family's struggle to survive is perfectly on point. But the characters are all such borderline buffoonish stereotypes that none of them are likable enough to elicit compassion.

If you're not emotionally invested in their struggles and the next generation's potential to "awake and sing," what you're left with are jokes about their mannerisms, tired clichés and a whole lot of yelling.

Lori Wilner has a near-headache-inducing demeanor as Bessie, the nagging, penny-pinching mother who schemes

If you go

'Awake and Sing!'

Through Dec. 7
Huntington Theatre
264 Huntington Ave.
\$25 to \$99
617-266-0800
www.huntingtontheatre.org

to hold the family together. But she is completely devoid of decency.

Eric T. Miller is especially strong as Moe Axelrod, the bitter war veteran who lost a leg in battle, finding both likability



This apartment is awfully nice for people who are supposed to be struggling. / T. CHARLES ERICKSON

and vulnerability just beneath the surface of Moe's rough, thuggish essence. Miller and Annie Purcell (Hennie) enjoy one heartwarming moment as their characters opt for the possibility of a better life, but it's a classic

example of too little, too late.

Director Melia Bensussen misses the mark with both the look and feel of "Awake and Sing!" The humanity disappears into over-the-top delivery that, at times, feels a bit too influ-

enced by Borscht-belt shtick. The humor should be mined, not made.



NICK DUSSAULT
@MetroBOS
letters@metro.us

COMING UP



JUSTIN MCKINNEY
Tonight Show
Nov 28-29



CHRIS DISTEFANO
MTV2's Guy Code
Dec 5-6



JULIAN MCCULLOUGH
Love You Mean It
Dec 11-13



JAKE JOHANSEN
Two Drink Minimum
Dec 18-20



JEN KIRKMAN
Chelsea Lately
Dec 26-27



STEVE SWEENEY
Caroline's
Dec 31



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'Phedre'

Nov. 19-Dec. 7
Nov. 19-21, 7:30 p.m. (previews),
Nov. 22, 8 p.m. (opening night),
Nov. 23, Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 5 p.m.
with pre-show discussion, Nov.
28, Dec. 3-4, 7:30 p.m., Nov. 29,
Dec. 6, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.
First Church in Boston
66 Marlborough St.
\$28-50, discounts for groups and
students available
866-811-4111
www.actorsshakespeareproject.org/phedre
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Translation by Ted Hughes,
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composers. Featuring renowned
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and the American Contemporary
Music Ensemble (ACME) and Eric
Hewitt, artistic director.

MUSIC

Freedom

Thursday, 8 p.m.
Goethe-Institut Boston
170 Beacon St.
Free, 617-262-6050
www.goethe.de/boston
This concert is a collaboration be-
tween Dresden's AUDITIVOKAL and
New York's Ensemble Moto Perpetuo,
which asked several composers, all
too young to have experienced the
fall of the Berlin Wall, to reflect upon
the event and the deeper meaning of

DANCE



AYODELE CASEL

Ronald K. Brown/Evidence

Friday and Saturday
Institute of Contemporary Art, 100 Northern Ave., \$40, 617-876-4275
www.worldmusic.org
Choreographer Ronald K. Brown draws on many strands of the African
diaspora to create highly kinetic works communicating dance as a ritual
and a journey, and highlighting the importance of community in African-
American culture. His group Evidence will perform three works, "The
Subtle Touch," "Torch" and excerpts from "One Shot," all for the first time
in Boston.

the freedom its memory evokes.

ART

'The Love Potion'

Through Sunday
Temple Ohabei Shalom
1187 Beacon St., Brookline

\$50, 617-542-6772

www.blo.org

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tion, Boston Lyric Opera presents
Swiss composer Frank Martin's
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Horoscope

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21.
Home improvements or a minor repair will end up costing more than you anticipate. Budget carefully and shop around for the best price.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. Take a breather. Confusion and mistrust will develop if you aren't precise. If you are torn in several directions, find a quiet place.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20. You need to put your uncanny insight into play and develop a sound business plan. Conditions are right for you to make a good investment or raise your earning potential. Romance is on the rise.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18. A group venture will turn in your favor if you step forward and take control. Consider all your options. Your ability to deal fairly with all parties will ensure success.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Take a close look at your relationships with others. Pay attention to the signals you are getting so that you undoubtedly know who is and who isn't on your team.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. Keep your emotions hidden. Make your point with facts and figures, not aggressive behavior. You will get the desired results if you maintain calm.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Someone will try to throw you off course. Keep forging ahead, no matter what happens. Your original plan is the one to follow, so dismiss anyone who tries to change your mind.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. A new connection will develop through an unexpected source. Your fun-loving nature and winning ways will dazzle everyone around you, so get out and socialize.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. Your employment prospects are looking up. Networking will bring you gains. Tackle an emotional issue that has been keeping you up at night.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. You will meet with stern opposition if you try to impose your will on others. Compromise will be necessary to achieve a successful personal or professional relationship.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. You must make concessions if it will help you keep the peace. If you are asked to help out, do so willingly. Making a fuss will be detrimental.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. Emotional matters will have you on edge. Step back and cool down before you make changes. Find a project that you can work on without interference. **EUGENIA LAST**

Letters

A better solution

The immigration problem is not exclusive to people who cross our southern border illegally. A diverse group of families chooses illegal immigration for myriad reasons. What's more, many of these immigrants came legally and overstayed their visas. They want to come out of the shadows and contribute more to our country. While not encouraging people to break laws, we need a thoughtful, permanent solution to this

complex problem.
LATRINA STOKES-SMITH, VIA EMAIL

Re: 'Want amnesty? Assimilate' (Metro, Nov. 19) Dear Mr. Ost, I was about to write a long response to your "Want amnesty? Assimilate" letter but realized that I'd rather just point something out. Your last name literally means "host," and you are being a very poor one to our new countrymen (countrypersons?). Dear everyone else, please forgive Mr. Ost for not being more welcoming, do come in, I'll take your jacket. There is a fire raging in the den, please go warm yourself by it

while I fetch you some tea. I know that we just met, but I can already tell that we are destined to be friends.

MICHAEL ROMANI, VIA EMAIL

Magic pills won't fix you

Re: 'Diet pills are making you fat' (Metro, Nov. 19) If you read most diet pills, the side panel says "in addition to healthy diet and lifestyle." If you had a healthy diet and lifestyle, you wouldn't need the diet pills to begin with. I'm honestly still

kind of shocked the people believe in a magic pill. It's as good as snake oil. If you are going to diet, it needs to be a lifestyle change, it's not just popping a pill or some other food item every day. Like I said, if you had a healthy diet and lifestyle, you wouldn't need the pill. I'm currently dieting myself, and it's all fresh, clean eating in the right proportions — no pills.

W.D. MCLEAN, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us



Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Sudoku: Easy and hard

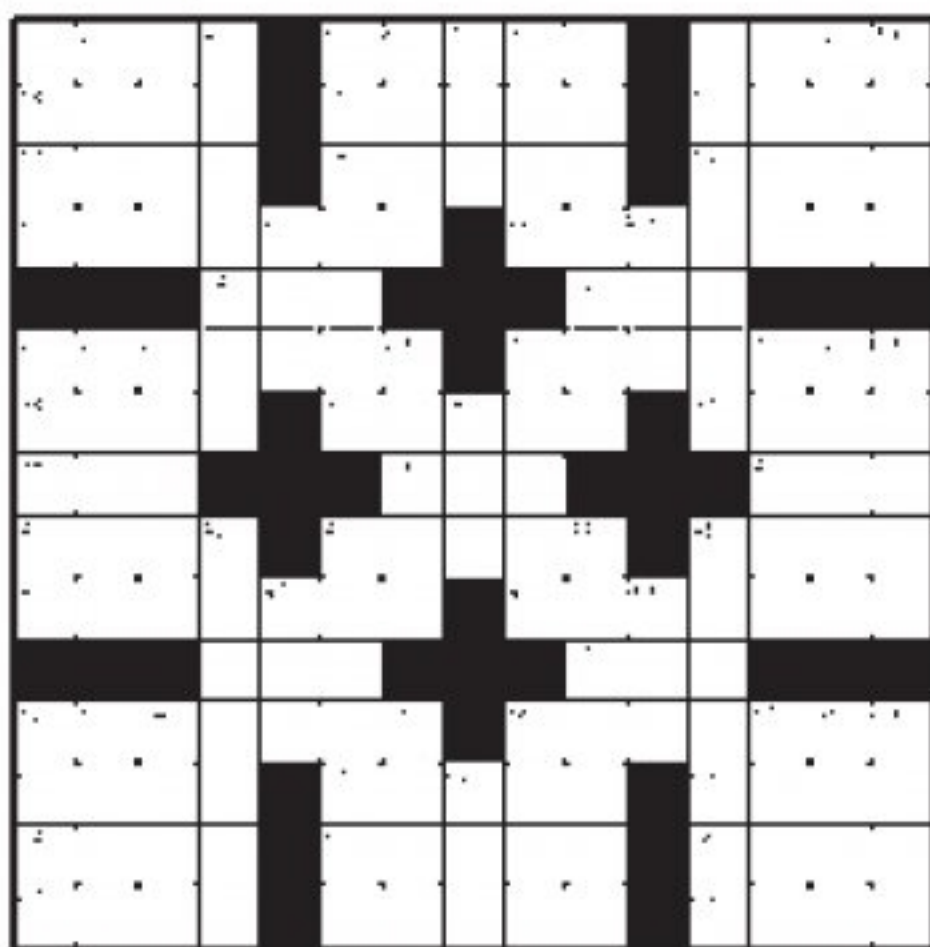
				1	2	8		3
			2	3		5		1
3							2	5
							1	8
6	3			8			5	9
4	9							
2	6							4
1			4		3	5		
8		5	9	7				

		9		2			1	4
1							6	
	4		1	6		7		
			8	4			3	1
	3			1			5	
2	1			3	7			
		3		8	6		9	
	2							5
6	9			5		3		

How to play

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Crossword



Across

- 1 Popcorn add-on
- 5 Wedge
- 10 Plant in a swamp
- 14 Delight
- 15 Wading bird
- 16 Reasoner's word
- 17 Khakis
- 18 Battery post
- 19 Melville title
- 20 Lynn and Vanessa
- 22 Unfunny humor
- 24 Is, to Fritz
- 25 Cold mo.
- 26 Like propaganda
- 30 Interstellar clouds
- 34 Metallic sound
- 35 Snagged a dogie
- 37 Talk wildly
- 38 Sturm — Drang
- 39 Playing marble
- 40 Hilo guitar
- 41 "Silent Running" star
- 43 Talk out of
- 45 Eye amorously
- 46 Skulked about

Down

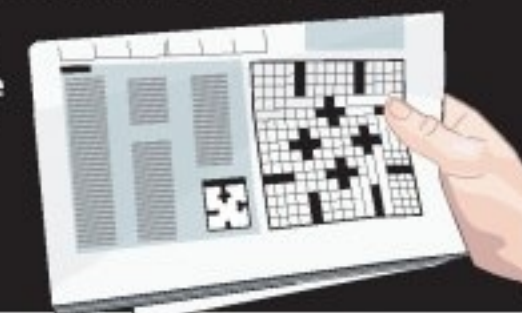
- 48 Fastened
- 50 NBA official
- 51 Quarry
- 52 Made pretty
- 56 Cubism founder
- 60 Prayer-wheel turner
- 61 Tent dweller
- 63 Nervous swallow
- 64 Q.E.D. part
- 65 Slow one
- 66 Fail to include
- 67 Like autumn leaves
- 68 In good time
- 69 Dozes off
- 1 Noncoms
- 2 Tien Shan mountains



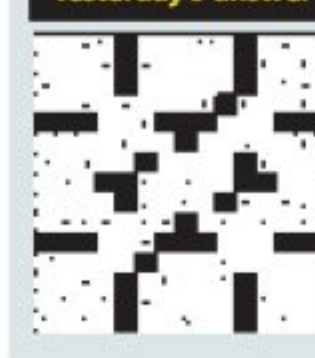
- 3 Hubble component
- 4 Microphone word
- 5 Rent, as a bus
- 6 Brooding birds
- 7 Pizarro's quest
- 8 Atlantic swimmers
- 9 Worked dough
- 10 Happen again
- 11 Columnist — Bombeck
- 12 Personality parts
- 13 Adverse fate
- 21 Fla. hours
- 23 Gray-clad soldier
- 26 Idahos and reds
- 27 Pharaoh's textile
- 28 Breton or Gide
- 29 Was overfond
- 30 Banister post
- 31 Giggle
- 32 Foot's neighbor
- 33 Charger
- 36 Greet furry friends
- 42 Recount
- 43 Grandstand cry
- 44 Swiftly
- 45 Stop sign

Visit us online at **Metro.us**.

Use your smartphone to find today's crossword answers! Download and open the Blippar app on your smartphone and hold the screen over the puzzle.



Yesterday's answer



- 47 Barbie's friend
- 49 Twitch
- 52 Malt beverages
- 53 Challenge
- 54 Sharif of the movies
- 55 Portuguese title
- 56 Water holder
- 57 Type of wrestling
- 58 Coasted
- 59 Makes a decision
- 62 Impair

BLOW BY COMPETITION BY FACTORING IN WEATHER

Winter is coming. Or, if you live in Buffalo, it's already here. Either way, weather is inevitably going to affect NFL games the rest of the way. But all conditions are not created equal as we attempt to project impact. What to look for:

Wind is king

Ask any NFL quarterback or coach what bothers the pass game most and they won't say rain, snow or cold. They'll say wind. We also have data on this, as winds over 15 mph have been proven to sharply decrease the always-telling yards per attempt (YPA) statistic. Wind speed is simple to monitor on Sunday mornings while setting lineups and gives us a hidden edge. Borderline QBs and WRs just can't be used with sustained 15-plus mph winds — unless you have Tom Brady (see below).

Know your arm

Of course, there are some quarterbacks who fare better in poor conditions. The aforementioned Brady is perhaps the greatest bad-weather quarterback ever and he put that on display in Week 9, ripping through strong winds and the Broncos for 333 yards and four touchdowns. Quarterbacks with weaker arms, such as Peyton Manning, Philip Rivers or Matt Ryan, come with more red flags. Expectations need to be tempered when they're outside braving winter elements.



Tom Brady is, arguably, the greatest bad-weather quarterback of all time. / GETTY IMAGES

Fantasy sports

ADAM LEVITAN

ALEVITAN@METRO.US



On the defensive

Slick conditions are great for producing fumbles and crooked plays, and even cold temps can really bother some quarterbacks. Mark Sanchez, a California kid, went to sub-freezing temps at Lambeau last week and predictably melted down, leading to a massive day for Green Bay's D/ST.

Pickups of the week

Here are the best adds for Week 12:

- **Coby Fleener, TE, Colts:** Fleener will get a big uptick if Dwayne Allen (ankle) sits.
- **Isaiah Crowell, RB, Browns:** Crowell fumbled in Week 11 and CLE went right back to him, signifying he's ahead of Terrance West.
- **Latavius Murray, RB, Raiders:** If the 0-10 Raiders have any football sense, they'll see what the size/speed freak Murray has down the stretch.

NFL matchups

Fire up these borderline players this week:

- **Rashad Jennings vs. DAL:** Jennings ran fine in his return from a knee injury, there was just nowhere to go.
- **Mark Sanchez vs. TEN:** The Titans are primed for a letdown after losing their Super Bowl to Pittsburgh on Monday night. The Eagles are ready to bounce back after their Green Bay humiliation.
- **Shane Vereen vs. DET:** The Lions have the league's best run defense in multiple categories. It's a Vereen game this week, not a Jonas Gray spot.

MLB

Sox still have eyes set on big targets

Now that the dust has settled on the 2014 MLB season and the GM meetings have wrapped up, the attention has shifted to 2015 as each team tries to better themselves for the new season through trades and free agency.

With the Red Sox coming off a 71-win, last-place finish in 2014, they certainly have a lot of work to do for 2015 and beyond. They've already attached their name to two of the most coveted free agents,

which officially makes it hot stove season in Boston.

The Red Sox have made it quite clear that their first main target is free agent third baseman Pablo Sandoval, as the team looks to solidify the third base position and obtain another left-handed bat (Sandoval is a switch-hitter).

Sandoval has been in Boston this week, reportedly seeing the city and meeting with members of the Red Sox front office. ESPN's Jerry Crasnick reported that Sandoval has discussed a five-year, \$80-90 million deal, which would

likely be a contract the Sox would be on board with.

The switch-hitter hasn't put up the best of numbers in the past two years — hitting .279 in 2014 and .278 in 2013, with a grand total of 30 home runs. But some of this could have to do with playing in the confines of AT&T Park. Playing at Fenway Park with the Green Monster would likely increase those numbers.

The next priority, and the second top free agent the Red Sox have shown interest in is, to no one's surprise, Jon Lester. The team traded



THE RED SOX ARE PUSHING TO REACQUIRE JON LESTER.

GETTY IMAGES

away four-fifths of its rotation last season, so it's no surprise they are looking to add.

Lester has said on numerous occasions that he would be open to returning to Boston, at the right price of course. Although the contract Lester is likely seeking might be beyond what the Red Sox have in mind for a player over 30, this is an exception. The team is in desperate need of an ace, and Lester has proven in the Boston market that he can be one. **RYAN HANNABLE**

3

SPORTS



MLB

Yankees may target Scherzer

The Yankees are "sleeping giants" when it comes to potentially signing free agent righty Max Scherzer, according to a National League executive in an ESPN report. "He's the best [available]," the executive said. "He has a little less mileage, and what he does is more sustainable." James Shields and Jon Lester are other top-notch starters that are available.



Visit **Metro.us** to see the complete TV schedule for this weekend's NFL games.

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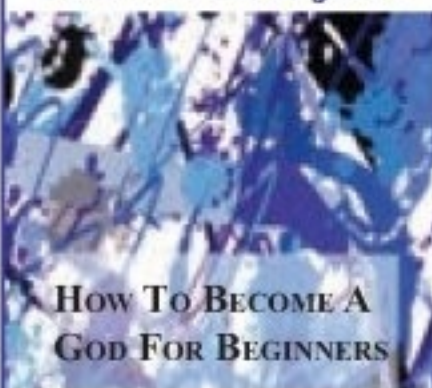
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